PATENT 450101-03158

Species II, Fig. 3;

Species III, Fig. 5;

Species IV, Fig. 6;

Species V, Figs. 9 and 10;

Species VI, Figs. 11 and 12; and

Species VII, Fig. 13.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has not identified different species of the invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are block diagrams of the video camera to which the claimed invention is applied. Fig. 5 is a block diagram of the picture image evaluating unit included in the controller of the video camera. Fig. 6 is a block diagram of the evaluating section of the picture image evaluating unit. Figs. 9 and 10 illustrate the display unit that displays the images recorded by the video camera. Fig. 11 illustrates a video camera. Fig. 12 illustrates the controller of the video camera. And Fig. 13 is a flow chart of the operation of the controller. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw his election of species requirement and either examine all the claims on their merits, or identify different species of the claimed invention to which the Examiner believes restriction would be appropriate.

Should the Examiner maintain that his election of species requirement is correct, Applicants elect, with traverse for the reason mentioned above, Species III, Fig. 5, on which claims 1-4, 8-10, 13, 14-16, 19, 20, 22-25, 28, 29, 31 and 32 are believed to read.

At least claim 1 is generic because claim 1 reads on all of the drawing figures enumerated by the Examiner. Accordingly, if claim 1 or any generic claim eventually is allowed, it is recognized that the instant requirement for an election of species will be withdrawn; and all

PATENT 450101-03158

claims that include the limitations of the generic claims, irrespective of the particular species on which those claims read, likewise will be allowed.

Applicants reserve their right to file one or more divisional applications, if necessary, to proceed with the examination of the non-elected claims.

An early examination on the merits of the claims of this application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted, FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

William S. Fromme

Reg. No. 25,506 (212) 588-0800